Even in death, Jackie Onassis stresses privacy

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NEW YORK — Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis left most of her estate to charity and her two children, whom she asked to preserve what she had prized so dearly in life: her privacy.

Mrs. Onassis' will was filed Wednesday in Manhattan's Surrogate Court. It does not specify the value of her estate, except to say it is more than $500,000.

Mrs. Onassis left all her letters, papers and documents to her two children, John Kennedy Jr. and Caroline Kennedy Schlossberg, and asked them to "respect my wish for privacy ... and ... take whatever action is warranted to prevent the display, publication or distribution, in whole or in part."

Mrs. Onassis died of cancer May 19 at age 64.

The will, dated March 22, was executed by her companion, Maurice Tempelsman, and a friend, lawyer Alexander Forger.

Tempelsman had handled her finances since the death of her second husband, Aristotle Onassis, and is thought to have at least quadrupled the $26 million she secured from the Greek shipping tycoon's estate.

The will calls for her children to each receive $250,000 as well as the principal of a trust fund left by the late president to his wife.

The children also will receive her Fifth Avenue apartment, two properties on Martha's Vineyard, furniture, rugs, artwork and jewelry.

Any remaining assets in her estate be used to establish a the C & J Foundation, which will give to charities.